NUMB. LXXV.

# The SPECTATOR.

*Omnis Ariſtippum decuit color & ſtatus & res.* Hor.

*Saturday, May* 26. 1711.

It was with ſome Mortification that I ſuffered the Raillery of a Fine Lady of my Acquaintance, for Calling, in one of my Papers, *Dorimant* a Clown. She was ſo unmerciful as to take Advantage of my invincible Taciturnity, and on that Occaſion, with great Freedom to conſider the Perſon, the Height, the Face, the Geſture of him who had preſumed to Judge ſo arrogantly of Gallantry. She has Converſation, Janty and lively in her Impertinence, like thoſe that commonly paſs, among the Ignorant, for Perſons who have a great deal of Humour. She had the Play of Sir *Fopling* in her Hand, and after ſhe had told it was happy for her there was not ſo impertinent a Creature as *Dorimant* now living, ſhe began with a Theatrical Air and Tone of Voice to read, by way of Triumph over me, ſome of his Speeches. *Ah, that lovely Hair, that eaſy Shape, thoſe charming Eyes, and all thoſe melting Charms about her Mouth, which* Medley *ſpoke of; I'll follow the Lady, and put in for a Prize with my Friend* Bellair.

*Ah Love the Victors from the Vanquiſh'd fly;*
*They fly that wound, and they purſue that dye.*

Then turning over the Leaves, ſhe reads alternately and ſpeaks,

*Handſome and* Loveit *to her Coſt ſhall find,*
*I know all the Depths of Womankind.*

Then the Fine Gentleman! But here, continues ſhe, is the Paſſage I admire moſt, where he begins to Court *Loveit*, and Mimick Sir *Fopling*. Oh the pretty Sort, in his reſolving to be a Coxcomb to pleaſe, the Noiſe and Nonſenſe have ſuch powerful Charms!

*Let what I may Succeſsful prove,*
*Transform my ſelf to what you love.*

Then how like a Man of the Town, ſo Wild and Gay is that!

*The Wiſe will find a Difference in our Fate,*
*Tho Wed a Woman, I a good Eſtate.*

It would have been a very wild Endeavour for a Man of my Temper to offer any Oppoſition to ſo nimble a Speaker as my Fair Enemy is, but her Diſcourſe gave me very many Reflections, when I had left her Company. Among others, I could not but conſider, with ſome Attention, the falſe Impreſſions the generality (the Fair Sex more eſpecially) have of what ſhould be intended, when they ſay a *Fine Gentleman*; and could not help revolving that Subject in my Thoughts, and ſetling, as it were, an Idea of that Character in my own Imagination.

No Man ought to have the Eſteem of the reſt of the World, for any Actions which are diſagreeable to thoſe Maxims which prevail, as the Standards of Behaviour, in the Country wherein he lives. What is oppoſite to the eternal Rules of Reaſon and good Senſe, muſt be excluded from any Place in the Carriage of a Well-bred Man. I did not, I confeſs, explain my ſelf enough on this Subject, when I called *Dorimant* a Clown, and made it an Inſtance of it, that he called the *Orange Wench*, *Double-Tripe*: I ſhould have ſhewed, that Humanity obliges a Gentleman to give no Part of Humankind Reproach, for what they, whom they Reproach, may poſſibly have in Common with the moſt Virtuous and Worthy amongſt us. When a Gentleman ſpeaks Coarſly, he has dreſſed himſelf Clean to no purpoſe: The Cloathing of our Minds certainly ought to be regarded before that of our Bodies. To betray in a Man's Talk a corrupted Imagination, is a much greater Offence againſt the Converſation of Gentlemen, than any Negligence of Dreſs imaginable. But this Senſe of the Matter is ſo far from being received among People even of Condition, that *Vocifer* paſſes for a Fine Gentleman. He is Loud, Haughty, Gentle, Soft, Lewd, and Obſequious by turns, juſt as a little Underſtanding and great Impudence prompt him at the preſent Moment. He paſſes among the Silly Part of our Women for a Man of Wit, becauſe he is generally in Doubt. He Contradicts with a Shrug, and confutes with a certain Sufficiency, in profeſſing ſuch or ſuch a Thing is above his Capacity. What makes his Character the pleaſanter is, that he is a profeſſed Deluder of Women; and becauſe the empty Coxcomb has no Regard to any thing that is of it ſelf Sacred and

and Inviolable, I have heard an unmarried Lady of Fortune say, it is a Pity so fine a Gentleman as *Vocifer* is so great an Atheist. The Crowds of such inconsiderable Creatures that infest all Places of Assembling, every Reader will have in his Eye from his own Observation; but would it not be worth considering what Sort of Figure a Man who formed himself upon those Principles among us, which are agreeable to the Dictates of Honour and Religion, would make in the familiar and ordinary Occurrences of Life?

I hardly have observed any one fill his several Duties of Life better than *Ignotus*. All the Underparts of his Behaviour, and such as are exposed to common Observation, have their rise in him from great and noble Motives. A firm and unshaken Expectation of another Life, makes him become this; Humanity and good Nature, fortified by the Sense of Virtue, has the same Effect upon him, as the Neglect of all Goodness has upon many others. Being firmly Established in all Matters of Importance, that certain Inattention which makes Mens Actions look easie, appears in him with greater Beauty: By a thorough Contempt of little Excellencies, he is perfectly Master of them. This Temper of Mind leaves him under no necessity of Studying his Air, and he has this peculiar distinction, that his Negligence is unaffected.

He that can work himself into a Pleasure in considering this Being as an uncertain one, and think to reap an Advantage by its Discontinuance, is in a fair way of doing all Things with a graceful Unconcern, and Gentleman-like Ease. Such a one does not behold his Life as a short, transient, perplexing State, made up of trifling Pleasures and great Anxieties, but sees it in quite another Light; his Griefs are Momentary, and his Joys Immortal. Reflection upon Death is not a gloomy and sad Thought of Resigning every Thing that he Delights in, but it is a short Night followed by an endless Day. What I would here contend for is, that the more Virtuous the Man is, the nearer he will naturally be to the Character of Gentile and Agreeable. A Man whose Fortune is Plentiful, shews an Ease in his Countenance, and Confidence in his Behaviour, which he that is under Wants and Difficulties cannot assume. It is thus with the State of the Mind; he that governs his Thoughts with the everlasting Rules of Reason and Sense, must have something so inexpressibly Graceful in his Words and Actions, that every Circumstance must become him. The Change of Persons or Things around him do not at all alter his Situation, but he looks disinterested in the Occurrences with which others are distracted, because the greatest purpose of his Life is to maintain an Indifference both to it and all its Enjoyments. In a word, to be a Fine Gentleman, is to be a Generous and a Brave Man. What can make a Man so much in constant good Humour and Shine, as we call it, than to be Supported by what can never fail him, and to believe that whatever happens to him was the best thing that could possibly befal him, or else he on whom it depends would not have permitted it to have befallen him at all?

*Compleat Setts of this Paper, for the Month of April, are to be sold by Mr. Graves in St. James's Street; Mr. Lewis under Tom's Coffee-House, Covent-Garden; Mr. Lillie, Perfumer, the Corner of Beauford-Buildings; Mr. Sanger at the Temple Gate; Mr. Lloyd near the Church in the Temple; Mr. Knapton in St. Paul's Church-Yard; Mr. Round in Exchange Ally, and Mrs. Baldwin in Warwick-Lane, where also may be had those for the Month of March.*

## *ADVERTISEMENTS.*


**Not Acted there these Three Years.**

**By Her Majesty's Company of Comedians.**

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-lane, this present Saturday, the 26th of May, will be presented a Comedy, call'd Sir Courtly Nice; or, It cannot be. The part of Sir Courtly by Mr. Cibber, Leonora by Mrs. Oldfield, Lord Bellguard by Mr. Mills, Surly by Mr. Keene, Hothead by Mr. Bullock, Cockwood by Mr. Penkethman, Testimony by Mr. Johnson, and Violante by Mrs. Bradshaw.

This Play is sold by Jacob Tonson at Shakespear's Head over against Catherine-street in the Strand.

The Entertainment of Musick, consisting of a Poem called, The Passion of Sappho, Written by Mr. Marison, and The Feast of Alexander, Written by Mr. Dryden; as they are Set to Musick by Mr. Thomas Clayton (Author of Arsinoe) will be Performed at his House in York-Buildings, on Tuesday next, the 29th Instant, beginning at Seven in the Evening. Tickets, at 5s. each, may be had at Mr. Charles Lillie's, the Corner of Beauford-Buildings, and at Mr. Eliot's St. James's Coffee-house. No Money receiv'd, or Tickets given out at the House.

This Poem is Sold by Jacob Tonson, at Shakespear's Head over against Catherine-street in the Strand.

With Her Majesty's Royal Privilege and Licence, there is now Printing an Exact Description of the Palace of Woodstock in Oxfordshire, in a large Folio, illustrated with the Plans, Elevations and Perspectives, Engraven by the best Hands on Copper Plates. Several of which being already finished, are this Day published by Jacob Tonson, at Shakespear's Head over against Catherine-street in the Strand.

In a few Days will be Publish'd

The Life and Acts of Mathew Parker, the First Archbishop of Canterbury in the Reign of Queen Elizabeth. Under whose Primacy and Influence the Reformation of Religion was happily Effected; and the Church of England Restored, and Established on the Principles where in it stands to this Day. Wherein are related the said Archbishop's Actions in Ecclesiastical Commissions and Synods; His Visitations of the Dioceses, Colleges and Hospitals within his Province, with his Injunctions and Regulations: Characters and Accounts of the Bishops by him Consecrated: His Endeavours for Uniformity: His Diligence in Retrieving, and Publishing many Antient and other Ancient Historical MSS. of this Nation: His Promoting a more correct Translation of the Holy Bible: His Government of his own Diocese of Canterbury: His sober Thoughts, Counsels and Cares for Religion and this Church: And many Particulars of the Ecclesiastical History of those Times, hitherto Unknown, or very Obscure, are discovered and brought to Light. Compiled Faithfully out of Records, Registers, State-Papers, Orders of Council, Autograph Letters, and sundry other Original MSS. In Four Books. To which is added, An Appendix, containing various Transcripts of Records, Letters, Instruments, Ordinances, Commissions, Discourses, Relations, Intelligences, and other secret Papers, above an Hundred in Number; for the Asserting or Illustrating the foregoing History. Among which will be found the Latin Life of this A. Bp. Excised by Matthæus, so much and so long wanted in the Editions of the British Antiquities. By John Strype, M. A. Printed for John Wyat at the Rose in St. Paul's Church-yard.

Choice Good New White and Red Wines, In the Hands of the Merchant. To be Sold by the Butt, Hogs-head or Gallon, but no less quantity than a Gallon, never in the Hands of Vintners but the Importers. Being the neat pure Juice of the Grape, as N-w Barcelona Red Wine Imported since Christmas last, at 5s. per Gallon and at 4s. 6d. by the Butt or Hogs-head (in other Years would be worth 10s per Gallon) likewise new white Mountain Wine, and Choice good white Madera Wine at 6s. per Gallon. To be Drawn out of the Butt as shall be Chose by the buyer, lying in a Cellar in Cannon street, at the Black Lyon opposite to London Coffee-House. Any Gentlemen that please may come and taste the Wines will be welcome, whether he buys or not. The Wine will keep several Years in Casks or Bottles. Note, there are Bottles and Casks of all sorts fit for filling. Attendance is given from 8 till 1, and from 2 till 7.

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